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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Copy /8 of /9 8 January 1970

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

Attorney General

Deputy Secretary of Defense

Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT:

IDEALIST/TACKLE China Mainland Offshore Mission Constraint

- 1. You will recall that the following question was raised during the 20 December 1969 303 Committee meeting: "How much degradation would occur to the IDEALIST/TACKLE mission product if the current 303 Committee route constraint for these missions was changed from 20 NM offshore from the China mainland to 20 NM from the China mainland offshore islands?"
- 2. My staff has applied the IDEALIST/TACKLE mission planning parameters to this question and has determined that the mission photography would be significantly degraded in that a 37 to 52 per cent target coverage reduction can be anticipated due to the increased camera to target distances. In addition, the mission product will also be degraded by an unpredictable amount due to the increased oblique angle of the photography and the resultant lack of penetration of the normally encountered haze conditions along the China coast. The movement of the flight path further offshore would in many instances place the aircraft 40 60 NM from the mainland

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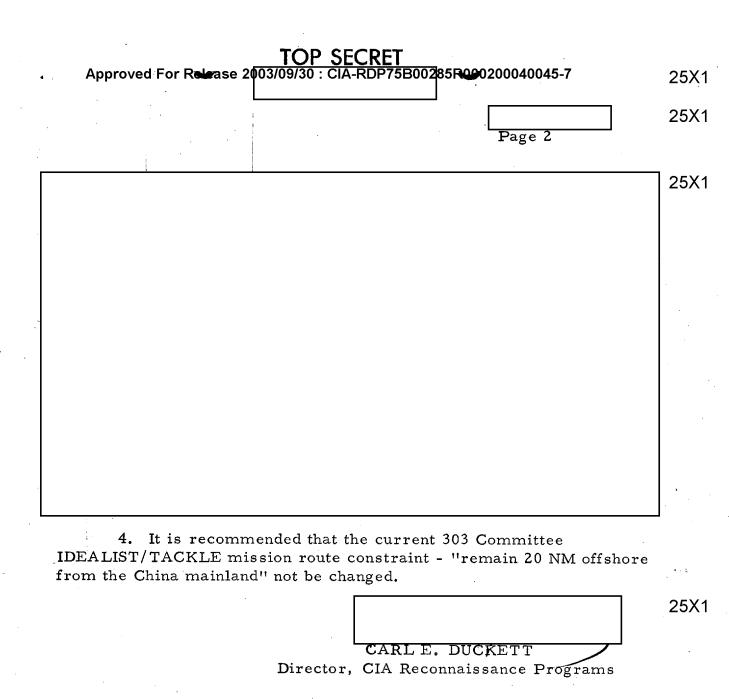
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NRO review(s) completed.

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	Approval for Release to the 303 Committee	A.P.*

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